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## **ABSTRACT**

[0040]

The present device detects on a windshield of a motor vehicle with a radiation source which emits optical rays onto the windshield with a photodetector which receives a portion of the optical rays emitted onto the windshield, and with a control unit which manages the radiation source and analyzes the light rays received by the photodetector. In order to be able to reliably detect particles in the field of vision of a driver of the vehicle using a device of this type, without the device being positioned in the driver's field of vision, the invention proposes that the radiation source is aligned in such a way that the light rays from the radiation source strike the windshield in the area of the field of vision of a driver of the vehicle and that the photodetector is pointed at the area of the windshield which the optical rays from the radiation source strike.